
MINUTES

—OF THE—

Thirteenth Annual Session

—OF THE—

FRIENDSHIP

Regular Baptist Association

—HELD WITH—

Zion Church, Teledo, Arkansas, September, 19 to 21, 1885

A. J. FAWCETT, Moderator.

J. M. WHARTON, Clerk.

Next meeting to be held with Sardis Church, Grant County,
Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in September, 1886.

Proceedings.

The Friendship Regular Baptist Association convened with Zion church, Toledo, Arkansas, Sept., 19th, 1885.

SATURDAY, 10 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder I. R. Vick. Theme: "The security of believers." In this sermon the doctrine of the preservation of the Saints was ably discussed and shown up in its clear light as taught in God's Word. After which a recess of one hour was given for refreshment which was furnished on the grounds.

1:30 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Association was called to order by Rev. A. J. Fawcett, who read the 103 Psalm. The roll of churches was called and their letters brought forward, and were read by Judges J. W. Lybrand and J. M. McCaskill, and delegates' names enrolled.

On motion proceeded to ballot for officers for the present session which resulted in the choice of Rev. A. J. Fawcett for Moderator and J. M. Lybrand Clerk and Treasurer.

An invitation was extended to corresponding messengers, whereupon Brother W. L. Mosley responded from Judson Association and Brother John G. B. Simms from the Bartholomew Association. Rev. M. D. Early was cordially received as a visiting brother from the Russellville Association.

On motion it was decided to take into consideration the importance and feasibility of aiding the establishment and maintainance of a Baptist College in this State and a Committee ordered appointed for that purpose.

A letter from certain brethren composing a faction of Providence church was received, asking this body to send a committee to investigate a matter between said faction and Elder L. Quinn, out of which much trouble had grown causing a division in said church. On motion said request was not granted.

NOTE. It will be remembered that this matter was laid before this body at its last session and a report of an investigating committee to whom this matter had been referred, deciding that the minority part was the scriptural church, was received and endorsed by the body.—CLERK.

On motion proceeded to appoint the various Committees.

Divine Service.—Elder J. H. W. Overton, W. J. Cope and J. W. Lybrand.

Home Missions.—I. R. Vick, H. B. Taylor and A. C. Miller.

Finance.—J. W. Lybrand, G. W. Reed and W. J. Cope.

Sunday Schools.—J. M. Quarales, T. J. Varnell and W. H. Cash.
 Publications.—J. M. McCaskill, U. W. Poss and E. V. Hellems.
 Education.—J. L. Hunter, J. H. Grumbles and J. W. Fish.
 Documents.—E. Y. A. Rogers, J. C. Smith and W. B. Nelms.
 Nominations.—L. Quinn, H. C. Fox and D. W. Campbell.
 Obituaries.—J. E. Ferguson, D. D. Tucker and R. M. Wardlaw.
 Foreign Missions.—J. H. W. Overton, J. H. Ashcraft and J. H.

Wilks.

Baptist State College.—B. F. Moody, R. C. Rhoden and D. W. Branch.

On motion adjourned till Monday morning 8 o'clock.

SATURDAY, 7:30 P. M.

The pulpit was occupied by Rev. M. D. Early, who preached a very able and instructive sermon. Text, Phil. ii, 5.

SUNDAY, 9 A. M.

A large congregation assembled in Sunday school mass meeting upon which occasion able and eloquent lectures were delivered by Brethren J. L. Hunter, J. G. B. Simms and C. D. Wood. Following each lecture was music, delivered by a choir of the Sweet Singers of Israel.

11 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Missionary sermon was preached by Rev. A. J. Fawcett, Text: John vii. 18 to 21. This was one of the happiest efforts of Brother Fawcett's life, and truly characteristic of his ability in preaching such sermons. After the sermon a collection was taken up for Home Missions amounting to \$28.20.

At the same hour Rev. M. D. Early preached at the Methodist church. Text: Psalms cxxxiii, 1. This was a deep scriptural discourse, mightily convincing the people of the importance of unity of action in every sphere and undertaking in life. After the sermon a collection was taken up amounting to \$7.00.

After services at each place the congregation united at the Baptist church and partook of refreshments.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Elder E. Y. A. Rogers preached a most excellent sermon. Text Rom. xiv, 12.

7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The master sermon of the Association was preached by Rev. M. D. Early. Text. Matt. xvii, 3. We could but fail were we to try to explain how heartily the brethren endorsed this sermon. The large concourse of brethren could but rejoice in their hearts for such proclamations of God's sacred truths, unadulterated by human tradition. Thus closed the services of a bright Sabbath day. May God bless the truths proclaimed this day to the good of all who heard them, and to his precious name be praise for ever more.

MONDAY MORNING.

Met pursuant to adjournment, prayer by Brother J. M. Quarales. Minutes of Saturday and Sunday were read and adopted. Elder J. B.

Lumbly was received as a corresponding messenger from Judson Association.

The Committee on Nominations made their report which was received, amended and adopted. See report A.

The Committee on Home Missions made their report, which drew out warm speeches from Brethren L. Quinn, W. H. Cash, M. D. Early, A. J. Fawcett and I. R. Vick; afterwards it was amended and adopted. See report B.

The Committee on Sunday Schools made their report, which was discussed very lengthily and adopted. See report C.

On motion of Elder R. C. Rhoden, no brother was allowed to speak more than five minutes at a time, and not more than twice on the same subject without leave of the body.

The Committee on Publications read their report, which was discussed and adopted. See report D.

The Committee on Education read their report which was adopted. See report E.

The Secretary of Ministerial Education made their report which was adopted. See report F.

The Committee on Documents made their report which was amended and adopted. See report G.

On motion adjourned for refreshments, furnished on the ground.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer by Elder J. B. Lumbly.

The Committee on Finance made their report which was adopted. See report H.

The Committee on Obituaries made their report which was adopted. See report I.

Pending this report a collection was taken up for the widow of our lamented brother, J. S. Taylor, amounting to \$10.25; which was turned over to Elder J. H. W. Overton, and he requested to forward the same to Sister Taylor.

The Committee on Baptist State College made their report which was amended and adopted. See report J.

The Committee on Foreign Missions made their report, which was discussed at length by Brethren J. G. B. Simms and M. D. Early, after which it was adopted. See report K.

The Secretary of Book Depository made his report which was adopted. See report L.

The report of the Executive Board was read and adopted. M.

Treasurer reported. See report N.

Brother B. F. Moody moved to reconsider the vote of the body at its last session by which it declared the minority faction of Providence church scriptural and right; lost.

A number of Resolutions were adopted, which see in their order.

Returned corresponding messengers as follows: Bartholomew Association, W. H. Cash, L. Quinn and A. J. Fawcett; Pine Bluff Association, R. C. Rhoden, U. W. Poss and T. J. Varnell; State Convention, I. R. Vick, L. Quinn and A. J. Fawcett. A collection was taken up supplementing the amount sent up for minutes amounting to \$1.25.

On motion proceeded to ballot for brethren to preach the annual sermons at the next session of this body which resulted in the choice of Elder J. H. W. Overton to preach the introductory, and Rev. A. J. Fawcett the missionary, sermon.

Adjourned to meet with Sardis church Grant county, Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in September 1886, 10 o'clock a. m. A hymn was sung and the parting hand was taken, during which tears of joy, bespeaking unity in love and action, flowed freely down. Prayer by Elder M. D. Early. Thus closed the thirteenth annual session of the Friendship Association.

A. J. FAWCETT, Moderator.

J. M. WHARTON, Clerk.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved that the thanks of this body are due and are hereby tendered to the citizens of this vicinity for the very hospitable manner in which they have entertained us during this session, and also to our Methodist brethren, for the use of their house of worship.

U. W. POSS.

Resolved that the clerk superintend the publishing of the minutes, and that he have 400 copies printed and distributed among the churches according to the amounts sent up for that purpose, and that he have the same done at the office of the Arkansas Evangel, and that he have \$15 for his services.

D. W. CAMPBELL.

Resolved that the clerk be requested to draw up a form for Associational Letter and that the churches be requested to copy from the same in making up their annual letters to this body and that the same be published in the minutes.

U. W. POSS.

Resolved that with regard to the request sent up by the majority faction of Providence church, we would say that we cannot interfere with the rights of any church, but would advise those brethren to go back and make one more prayerful effort to reconcile their troubles, and be assured that they have the prayers of this body.

J. L. HUNTER.

REPORTS.

(A)

Your committee on Nominations report: For Executive Board, Rev. A. J. Fawcett, President; H. C. Fox, Secretary; J. L. Hunter, J. M. Wharton and J. H. Grumbels. For Book Depository, D. W. Campbell. For Secretary Sunday schools, W. H. Cash. Secretary Ministerial Education, L. Quinn. We recommend that this body hold its next session with Sardis church.

L. QUINN, Chairman.

(B)

Your committee on Home Missions report that there is a large por-

tion of our territory destitute, our present plan; that each pastor that can reach a destitute portion to do so, but there is a large portion of destitute territory that cannot be reached by pastors. Therefore, we would recommend that we employ a man to fill all the territory that cannot be reached by pastors. This Association can fill all our destitute territory if each church will adopt the gospel plan in giving; this we must do if we succeed.

I. R. VICK, Chairman.

[C.]

Your Committee on Sunday Schools would report, that we find the subject of Sunday schools being more and more impressed, not only on this Association but on the denomination at large, and wherever a church has maintained a good Sabbath school, that it has reaped beneficially to the church and accomplished good for the cause of Christ, and we generally get more members from the Sunday school than we do from any other class of people, and they are more efficient workers. We would impress this cause, for we reach many people through this channel that we cannot or do not reach by any other means. The children are here taught as they cannot be any where else. We would impress the importance of the Sunday school for the reason that a large class of people learn nearly, or quite all they ever know about the Bible in youth, before the business of life claims their attention. Also the Sunday school is a good agent for the church to indoctrinate her young members. In regard to literature we would recommend the use of the lesson helps, published by the American Baptist Publication Society. We would recommend the taking of more papers, such as Kind Words, The Young Reformer, &c. We long to see the day when all our churches have a live working Sunday school, and that they may redound to the glory of God.

Submitted.

J. M. QUARLES, Chairman.

[D.]

Your Committee on Publications would report that the thorough dissemination of Baptist literature is of great importance to the success of our denomination, and that this is one of the grand means of advising the people who we are and what we are. As Baptists, we believe that we are right and that our doctrines are imbedded in the Great Book of Eternal Truth. Then let us use every available means to more freely circulate the Bible and Baptist papers, that the people everywhere may know the pure gospel as it is in Christ. This is a question of the greatest importance and its intrinsic value must not be overlooked by our denomination. The circulation of our books, papers and journals, should be increased and not diminished; and we recommend that brethren throughout this Association be thoroughly alive to their duty in this respect. As an Arkansas Baptist paper, we recommend first, our beloved EVANGEL, which should have a place in every Baptist family in the State. We should turn our

purses and energies to the development of home institutions and feel that there is no place like "Home Sweet Home." The EVANGEL is our home paper. Let us stand by it like true Baptist friends. We also desire to remember the Tennessee Baptist, the long, true and tried friend of Baptist faith and doctrine. Kind Words, The Young Reaper, and Little Ones, we heartily recommend as Sunday school papers and hope that their circulation will be increased beyond what it now is. As a general hymn book, we call attention to the new Southern Psalmist.

J. M. McCASKILL, Chairman.

[E.]

Your Committee on Education beg leave to report that no application has been made to this Association for assistance to attain a theological education, also that no money for ministerial education has been sent up by the churches. We would urge the serious consideration by every Baptist in all this land, of the great need of an educated ministry to overcome the lowering elements of error and darkness. We recommend for this purpose not only the education of the rising generation, but that the present ministry be so paid by the churches as to loose their hands from manual labor that they may devote their time to study, and to the work of the Lord. Let us pray to the Lord of the harvest to send reapers into this field.

J. L. HUNTER,	} Committee.
J. H. GRUMBELS,	
J. . FISH.	

[F.]

Your Secretary of Ministerial Education would report or deliver back the subscription list that I received of you without any collections being made, and also the \$2 00 that were paid at the last Association.

J. H. OWENS.

[G.]

We, your Committee on Documents, would report as follows: Sardis church petitions for the next session of this Association. We find the number of churches represented, 22; ordained ministers, 11; unordained ministers, 6; received by baptism, 105; by letter, 48; by voucher, 2; restored, 13; dismissed by letter, 40; excluded, 31; died, 14; number of male members, 514; females, 675. Total, 1,189. We recommend this body to hold its next session with Sardis church.

E. Y. A. ROGERS, Chairman.

[H.]

Your Committee on Finance would report that we find

Amount sent up for Minutes.	\$ 33 25
Home Missions,	38 85
Foreign Missions,	14 40
Collected on Sunday for Home Missions,	35 25

Total	\$121 75
-------	----------

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. LYBRAND, Chairman.

[I]

Your Committee on Obituaries beg leave to submit the following report: Since our last meeting God, in his alwise providence has called from our midst our venerable brother, J. S. Taylor, who as an energetic and faithful expounder of the word of God had but few superiors in our midst. Brother Taylor was born in Lexington county, South Carolina, January, 22d, 1812. He came to Arkansas in 1847, and died May 15th, 1885. About 35 years of his life was devoted to the ministry. We as a body tender our condolence to his grief-stricken family and trust that many will emulate his noble example. With sad hearts we also wish to mention the death of Brother J. S. Morrison of Star City church. In speaking of this noble brother, we can truly say that in his death this body has lost an almost regular member, and his church a useful member and an exemplary Christian.

J. E. FERGUSON, Chairman.

[J]

Your Committee to whom was referred the matter of the State College, beg leave to make the following report. In almost every State in the Union the Baptists have Colleges in which they educate their children and all others who may choose to come. We may not expect to bring our children up in the faith as we understand it, while we entrust their education to those of a different faith. Therefore it is necessary for us to build a Baptist College and retain them in our State. Resolved, therefore, that we recommend this Association to take this matter under consideration, and try and raise some means by which to have such a school in our State, and recommend that this body appoint a Committee of one, to confer with the Educational Commission of the State Convention on this subject.

R. C. RHODEN, Chairman.

[K.]

Your Committee on Foreign Mission would report as follows: The subject of missions is one of Divine origin, hence is a part of our work, but just how to perform this work that it may be crowned with

success, and the heathen to get all the benefits of our labor, we are at a loss for a plan. The gospel is to be preached to all the world and the church is the instrument through which it is to go. Hence it is ours to send, but we need a plan by which we can send all our means for that purpose direct to the nations from our hands, so that if we give one or ten dollars, that those people will get all the benefits of our money. Some of those nations, to a great extent, have forgotten God, and unless they now come to God through Christ they must be forever cast into that pit that knows no joy, and the gospel is God's power unto salvation and is committed unto men to carry to men. So let us carry it back to them through whom it came to us, and offer them salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. They need the gospel and must die eternally without it, for in the gospel they hear of him in whom they must believe if ever saved. St. John was a Foreign Missionary, and so was Christ and all the apostles; they went to the destitute and offered them life through faith in Christ. So ought we of to-day to go into the destitute parts of the world and preach the word.

J H W. OVERTON, Chairman.

[L.]

Your Secretary and Book Depository would report that the former Secretary has not turned over to him any books or money and I have not received anything from our churches or individuals, therefore nothing has been done. Your former Secretary wrote me to say to you that he did not know how much he had received or paid out, nor how many books had been sold; but for the Association to say how much he should pay and he would pay it. Your Secretary would state that the circulation of our literature is of great importance to our denomination and should be looked after

I R VICK, Secretary.

I will here say that after the Association had adjourned (next day) I received a report from Brother Searcy, stating that he had in his hands \$12 95 which the Secretary is authorized to draw on him for at any time; that the books on hand are at Annover, subject to the Book Depository Agent's order.—CLERK

[M.]

To the Friendship Association, convening September, 19th, 1885.—
Dear Brethren:

Your Executive Board would respectfully submit the following report: Our first meeting was held with Enon church on the fifth Sabbath in March, at which time application for help was made by the church at Pine Bluff. In said application the Pine Bluff brethren expressed determination to do all they could to secure the services

of such a pastor as the nature of the circumstances and surroundings demanded. But with their utmost efforts they found it necessary to appeal to us for a contribution one more year. After duly considering the matter your Board agreed to supplement the pastor's salary at said place with one hundred dollars, with the understanding that Elder A. J. Fawcett, the former pastor, should be retained. We are now in receipt of a most cheering report from Brother Fawcett, as follows: "Baptisms, 15; received by letter, 7; restored, 1. Thus making the total number of accessions during the past year twenty-four. A parsonage has been built worth \$1,500. The congregations are large, and the Sunday school is in a flourishing condition. Prospects in general are truly encouraging and the church is now regarded as self-sustaining." Your Board has suffered the embarrassment of having but little funds with which to support our missionary, but we confidently expect the churches to bring in ample contributions for that purpose. Your Board has paid to Brother Fawcett \$27.50 leaving a balance of \$72.50 still due him, the payment of which demands immediate attention. Finally, brethren, in view of the fact that the work of the Lord has prospered in our hands during the past year, we ask you to join with us in tendering unto the Lord the gratitude of our hearts for his having crowned our humble efforts with such satisfactory results.

W. W. HALEY,
President of Ex. Board

[N.]

J. M. Wharton to the Friendship Bap. Ass.	Cr.	Dr.
Amount sent for Minutes,		\$31 00
Amount supplementing for Minutes,		4 00
		<hr/>
		\$35 00
Amount for printing Minutes,	\$18 00	
Clerk's fees,	15 00	
Stationary, stamps, etc.,	2 00	
	<hr/>	
	\$35 00	\$35 50

Submitted,

J. M. WHARTON, Treasurer.

P. S. As the missionary money was turned over to the Board and missionaries before the adjournment of the body, I deem it unnecessary to mention it in my report.—J. M. W.

FORM OF ASSOCIATIONAL LETTER.

The Church of Christ at _____,
To Friendship Regular Baptist Association, sends greeting.

DEAR BRETHREEN:

We send as delegates to your body _____

Name of pastor _____

STATISTICS.

Ordained ministers and Po. _____

Unordained ministers and Po. _____

Baptized, _____; received by letter, _____; restored, _____; by vouch-
er, _____; by relation, _____ . Total, _____ Dismissed by letter,
_____; Excluded, _____; dead, _____ . Remaining in fellowship,
males and _____ females. Total membership, _____ . Number of pu-
pils in Sunday school, _____ . Number of religious papers taken, _____ .

FINANCE.

For Minutes, \$ _____; Home Missions, \$ _____; Foreign Missions,
\$ _____; Ministerial Education, \$ _____ . Making a total amount of
\$ _____ .

Name and postoffice address of the Clerk of the church.

N. B. Clerks are requested to use the above form when writing
annual letters.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

L. R. Vick, Garnett.	E. Y. A. Rogers, Coleman.
T. B. O'neal, Garnett.	A. J. Fawcett, Pine Bluff.
J. H. W. Overton, Toledo.	R. C. Rhoden, Darysaw.
W. H. Cash, Toledo.	C. A. Gartman, Grapevine.
J. G. Taylor, Grapevine.	L. Quinn, Star City.
E. D. Taylor, Grapevine.	W. T. Smith, Garnett.
T. J. Varnell, Gum Springs.	J. C. L. Green, Garnett.

UNORDAINED MINISTERS.

J. W. Fish, Palmyra.	W. D. Corker, Toledo.
Wm. Coats, Randall.	H. B. Taylor, Whiteoak.
L. B. Owens, Monitongo.	

PLEDGES FOR HOME MISSIONS.

DUE NOV. 15, 1885.

Holly Springs church,	\$ 20 00	
Star City church,	10 00	
Pine Bluff church,	10 00	
Hickory Grove church,	10 00	
Spring Hill church, No. 1,	10 00	
Spring Hill church, No. 2,	10 00	
Rehel church, No. 1.	10 00	
Sardis church,	10 00	
Zion church,	10 00	
Pleasant Ridge church,	10 00	
Friendship church, No. 1.	10 00	
Mrs. Rebecca Taliaferro,	10 00	
Total,	\$130 00	\$130 00

DUE MARCH 1, 1886.

Star City church;	\$ 5 00	
Pleasant Springs church,	5 00	
Providence church,	5 00	
Mount Moriah church,	5 00	
Bethlehem church	5 00	
Enon church,	5 00	
New Hope church,	5 00	
Macedonia church,	5 00	
Cedar Branch church,	5 00	
Rev. L. Quinn for Star City church.	5 00	
J. G. B. Simms,	5 00	
Rev. J. B. Lumbley,	5 00	
A friend, (paid.)	5 00	
Total,	\$65 00	\$65 00
Grand total,		\$195 00